

Third Grade Minimum Reading Competencies

Phonemic Awareness

- The student must be able to demonstrate all of the phonemic awareness skill competencies outlined in Kindergarten and First Grade

Phonics

- Identify and know the meaning of the most common prefixes and derivational suffixes
- Decode words with common Latin suffixes
- Decode multisyllabic words

Reading Fluency

- Read grade-appropriate irregularly spelled words
- Read a minimum of 71 words per minute in the fall with fluency; read a minimum of 92 words per minute in the winter with fluency; read a minimum of 107 words per minute in the spring with fluency
- Read grade level text accurately and fluently, attending to phrasing, intonation, and punctuation

Vocabulary Development

- Determine the meaning of a new word formed when a known affix is added to a known word
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, distinguishing literal from nonliteral language
- Use sentence-level context as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase
- Use knowledge of word relationships to identify antonyms or synonyms to clarify meaning
- Use a known root word as a clue to the meaning of an unknown word with the same root
- Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 3 topic or subject area

Reading Comprehension

- Identify a main topic of a multi-paragraph text as well as the focus of specific paragraphs within the text
- Answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers
- Use a variety of comprehension strategies to interpret text (attending, searching, predicting, checking, and self-correcting)
- Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea
- Summarize central ideas and important details from a text
- Compare and contrast the themes, settings, and plots of stories written by the same author about the same or similar characters
- Use semantic cues and signal words (because, although) to identify cause/effect and compare/contrast relationships
- Describe the logical connection between particular sentences and paragraphs in a text
- Read and comprehend information texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts
- Compare and contrast the most important points and key details presented in two texts on the same topic
- Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text, using language that pertains to time, sequence, and cause/effect